



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

For Release: Dec. 20, 2002

Contact: Sherry Llewellyn
(410) 313-2236

Dance Instructor Charged with Sexual Abuse of Students

Howard County Police have charged the instructor of an Ellicott City dance studio with sexually abusing three girls who were students at the school. Jose Anibal Macedo, 41, (DOB: 6/6/61), of 1102 Taylor Ave. in Halethorpe, Md., was arrested last night and charged with rape, sex offenses, child abuse, assault and perverted practices.

Detectives received independent reports about Macedo from three different children over the last few months. None of the girls, who were 11, 12 and 13 at the time of the abuse, knew one another or had contact with each other prior to filing reports with police. The victims will not be identified due to their ages and the nature of the crimes.

The allegations against Macedo include sex acts against the children ranging from fondling to intercourse. Two of the children independently reported that the abuse continued for two years. In the third case, the child reported that she was abused for a number of months before leaving the school.

Macedo was arrested last night at the Advance Dance Academy in the 9300 block of Baltimore National Pike, Ellicott City. All three victims reported to police that the abuse took place at the dance studio during private lessons.

Police are urging additional victims to come forward and contact the police department at (410) 313-3200. Detectives are asking parents of students who have trained at the dance studio to talk with their children and report any suspicious or improper activity by Macedo immediately.

Additional information will be released as it becomes available.

###

Editor's Note: The Office of Public Affairs will hold a news briefing about this case at 12:30 p.m. at Howard County Police Headquarters, 3410 Courthouse Drive, Ellicott City. A public information officer will review the details of this release and respond to questions at that time.